

**It's no rumor:
Theatre
Tuscaloosa
will remain in
capable
hands under
Tina Fitch**



The cast of Rumors tries to work things out on the stairway, but the resolution doesn't come easy...

As if to demonstrate what she could do, the new director of Theatre Tuscaloosa first showcased her nuts-and-bolts skill by directing another play for the organization.

Tina Fitch was the organizational force behind the rollicking and zany production of Neil Simon's *Rumors*, which ran Sept. 29-Oct. 8 at the college's

**See Fitch,
Page 2**

Captain Buc & Friends

Capt. Buc, the Shelton mascot, collects shipmates wherever he goes. At the Buccaneer soccer game his mateys included the Mohun children (L-R) April, Austin and Amanda and (front) Coach Nellie Christian's kids Reagan and Ainsley



Buc soccer squad primed for championship run

By Melissa Chamblee



The Shelton State soccer team huddles up for a quick word from its coach, Nellie Christian, after the regular-season-ending victory over Georgia-Perimeter, 5-1.

On Sunday Oct. 22, the Shelton State Lady Bucs played their final regular season game at home against Georgia Perimeter.

The Bucs were victorious in their final game of the regular season with a score of 5-1. The goals scored were by Lyndon Lasseter, giving her 24 total for the season as well as a team-leading six assists.

**See Lady Bucs
Page 2**

Shelton hosts 'Inter- national' fashion fair

By Melissa Chamblee

Shelton State was chosen among many other colleges in the area to host the 2006 Fashion Fair on Oct. 18, because of its excellent facilities and diverse population of students.

Fashion Fair was put on by Dillard's Department



Store in association with Fashion Fair International, a sister company of *Ebony* and *Jet* magazines. The Fair was started almost 33 years ago by John H. Johnson. After his passing, daughter Linda Johnson Rice took over the company.

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**Inside
The Courier**

**Todd the Destroyer is just one of the interesting fellows you could run into this month....
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A guy who lived 'over there' describes what it's like over here... pg. 3

The Golf tourney was a hoot... pg. 7



Fashion From Page 1

"The reason behind Fashion Fair is to encourage young women, not just to make up their faces, but to enhance their true beauty, making them look and feel as beautiful on the outside as they are on the inside," said Pamela Mack, an international makeup artist in attendance for the festivities.

The event featured 15-minute makeovers, make up techniques, information on skin care and a fashion show. Others in attendance were Phyllis Cody, Fashion Fair counter manager at Dillard's, Mary Ann Proffit, who works with fashion at Dillard's and manages the Elizabeth Arden counter there as well. Also, Lee

Hayes and Debra Bonner from Shelton helped organize the event.

The fashion show showcased Dillard's new fall and winter wardrobes from casual school wear to professional work attire. The fashion show helped give ideas to upcoming Shelton graduates on proper work attire that is fashionable and reasonably priced.

Students were treated to great deals as well; if the students purchased at least \$15 at Fashion Fair and kept their receipts, the cosmetology department at Shelton will offer a special \$5 deal for brows, also free gifts were given to those who made purchases on the already great-priced items. Coverage of the 2006 Fashion Fair will be featured in upcoming issues of *Ebony* and *Jet* magazines.



A Dillard's fashion show was part of the Fashion Fair.

Lady Bucs From Page 1

Madison Brakefield helped lead the team to victory as well scoring two goals making her total five for the season. Gina Lasseter and Whitney Murdoch each scored one goal. Also, Monica Robinson scored one, finishing the season with a total of 15 goals.

With the recent victory, the Shelton State Bucs finish with a record of 16-1-1 for the season with a ranking of 14th in the nation as of Oct. 17.

The next challenge for the Bucs is a first-round playoff battle with Polk Community College of Orlando on Nov. 3.

If the Buccaneers continue to win, they will become eligible for the National Championship Tournament Nov. 16 through 19.

It's safe to say this season will be remembered by the Bucs. Coach Nellie Christian feels, "We've definitely had a good year."

The playoffs will be held in Georgia in the city of whatever team wins the state championship.

Coach Christian said: "In regards to the playoffs we are not really adding anything new; we are just building on what we already know and taking it game by game. Good competition like Georgia Perimeter helps in the preparation process as well."

The high-scoring Bucs had reason to feel especially good with their last win. "You know, we were tied with them in Atlanta, 1-1," Coach Christian said.

Fitch from Page 1

Bean-Brown Theatre.

Featuring an ensemble cast of many of the community's finest actors, *Rumors* testified to both the range and effectiveness of the company as it passes over to Fitch. Actual tears were seen streaming down the faces of audience members as the ever-more-farcical-by-the-moment play unfolded.

Fitch herself has evinced the range the troupe has. She has directed shows for TT from the wildly funny *Complete History of*



Tina Fitch was recently named director of Theatre Tuscaloosa.

America (abridged) and *Arsenic and Old Lace* to the taut dramas *Death of a Salesman* and *Diary of Anne Frank*.

Innovative math program pulls students through

Math class got you down? Are you trying and trying and trying to pass, but just don't feel like you have enough time? Well, have no fear, In Progress Grade is here! A program available in CBI Developmental math classes, In Progress Grade is a program that lets you complete a one semester course in two semesters. How wonderful is that?

This program is a true testament to the effectiveness of Community Colleges over the University system. Though Universities care about their students, their help is rather generic and sometimes they can seem uncaring towards

the students with problems like test anxiety and who get easily discouraged by failing tests. Something like In Progress helps students work at their own pace, and it encourages them to work and pass their classes. Are you listening, University System? If you help the students more, they succeed.

IP is available in RDG084, RDG085, MTH090, and CBI Sections of MTH098. So if you feel you need a little more time, and are eligible for the program, talk to your instructor. You may be surprised by what a little extra time can do for your grade.

The Shelton State
Courier is brought to
its readers by the
academic and extra-
curricular
programs
of Shelton State
Community College.

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The Shelton State
Courier is a campus
newspaper, written
and produced with the help
of students.

Among other functions,
it is intended as a vehicle for
student expression, and all
students are urged to partic-
ipate with submissions of
written and artistic material.

The college seeks to ful-
fill the statement for aca-
demic freedom in working

with the students in the pro-
duction of this paper.

All publications are sub-
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all college publications for
content and accuracy.

The Courier is an equal
opportunity employer and
student organization. All
students are encouraged to
participate.

International student feels 'super-sized' hospitality of Tuscaloosa

By Akbar Butt
Special to the *Courier*

There is a famous jazz idiom that refers to a person as an "Englishman in New York." In other words, it states how a person could feel completely out of place or like a total stranger in a new setting or environment.

Indeed, I felt like an Englishman in New York when I first arrived in Alabama; or as most Americans like to say, it was a big "culture shock."

Having lived most of my life in different parts of Asia I will go on to compare and contrast life in Alabama with life in Asia. Some people may disagree with my opinions but one must bear in mind that these are my observations and perceptions, not concrete facts about both cultures. However, being a foreigner and having several foreign friends, my thoughts are based on a mass consensus and not just my own.

When I first arrived, it seemed to me that everything in Alabama was done in the opposite manner. Of course, "everything" is just a cliché but just to name a few, I am referring to light switches and traffic directions. Light switches turn on and off in the opposite direction over here. You can't imagine how many times I have left the light on thinking that it was actually off or have had to flip switches back and forth until I got the right one. It seems like a very small thing, however drops of water lead to the formation of an ocean, and in this case, a lot of frustration. As an example, when someone asked me to turn on the lights, I then immediately turned off the existing lights, thinking that those were the ones that needed to be flicked. Not only that I was embarrassed and frustrated by making such a foolish mistake. To add further fuel to the fire, the other person looked at me as if I was a third grader for not even being able to figure out which switches needed to be flicked.

Different traffic directions was another area that literally drove me around in circles. In Alabama, all driv-

ers drive on the left hand side of the vehicle and the flow of traffic is on the right hand side of the road. However, in Asia, the traffic pattern is completely the opposite, that is to say that drivers are seated on the right hand side of the vehicle and the flow of traffic is on the left hand side of the road. Driving on the opposite side was certainly a challenge, but I never thought that even crossing the road could be so confusing at times. It always reminded me of the different jokes of why the chicken crossed the road. I usually looked in the wrong direction and as soon as I walked two steps I would hear a loud honk accompanied by the usual obscene comments. Of course, since it was my fault, all I could do in return was to apologetically walk back to my side of the road and be thankful for not being run over. Therefore, until I could master the art of safely crossing the road, I usually looked around to see if there was another person crossing the road and would simply follow his or her lead.

Food is another aspect that is naturally different for every culture. However, I must add that when I arrived here, I truly found out why the south was famous for having the highest obesity in the nation. In my first year I had gained twenty pounds and four inches on my waist. As I never cooked food at home my options were limited to fried food, pizzas, burgers and fries. It seemed that whenever I asked someone where I could eat healthy food, all they could tell me was to go to Subway. It didn't seem like a very vast list of options for a person who wanted a healthy diet. In Asia, however, people are very health conscious and at every corner you could find low calorie meals. I found it quite funny to see how the advertisements differed in both places as in Alabama the main theme of most edible items was that it was juicier, thicker or larger whereas in Asia most advertisements concentrated on being lower in calorie or

healthier. Just to put things into better perspective, the super size of McDonald's over there, is equivalent to the regular size over here. This brings me to another



Akbar Butt chills out in Hong Kong before coming to school at Shelton State

point where most Americans would notice that Asians are prone to asking for a soda without ice. It is not because we like room temperature drinks, but because the size of the drinks is so big for us that all of the ice melts before we could even finish it. Therefore we sacrifice the chill factor to maintain the flavor of the drink. It is an undesirable trade-off but the choice is quite obvious in most cases.

One thing about the South which is quite admirable is their "Southern hospitality." When I arrived here I thought that most people who said hello to each other were actually acquainted to one another. However, with time, I found out that it was not the case and that it was just a polite gesture. Apart from that, I was very well treated by strangers and they always tried their best to make me feel like I was at home. It is unfortunate that such a practice is not common in Asia. Even though they are regarded as one of the best hosts in the world, however, "host" is the key word here. If they didn't know you, or didn't have any kind of interaction with you, then they wouldn't even bother to say hello to you.

It is pretty much like what I have heard about the Northern states, in places such as New York City. In Alabama I have had instances where in my first meeting with someone they would invite me to a family dinner whereas in Asia most people would initially take you out for dinner if they wanted to extend their relationship with you. It seems that people over here develop close bonds much faster than they would in Asia.

Lastly, I would like to comment on the diversity of cultures found in both places. It is said that you could find a China town in every city of the United States. However, I have yet to find one in the South. In Asia, you could find several groups and markets for people of different ethnic backgrounds. It seems that the Southern culture overshadows every minority group. Don't get me wrong as I had previously men-

tioned the Southern hospitality which also refers to the fact that Southerners openly welcome people from different cultures. It is just that there is something about the Southern culture that grows on you. For instance, in just a couple of years I have managed to pick up a slight twang in my English and have grown fond of activities such as Monday night football accompanied by a barbecue. It cannot be ignored that there is certainly some kind of Southern charm.

Like many other foreigners, coming to the South certainly has shown me several aspects of the true American Culture. I say true American Culture because of the lack of diversity in different cultures and the fact that Southerners are known to be old fashioned. It seems to be the one place where one could get a feel of how Americans really live their lives. So far it has certainly been an enjoyable and adventurous roller coaster ride with several ups and downs.

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Online survey gives Shelton students an inde- pendent voice

By Henri Cheramie

The Online Student Opinion surveys have only been around for two semesters. These surveys are designed to help the students voice their opinions about the school, the faculty, and even the education programs here at Shelton State Community College. These surveys put Shelton in the hands of the students.

Michele Jarrell, who works in Institutional Research at Shelton State, says that these surveys are important to institutional effectiveness and helps each instructor who uses them to make courses better. She emphasizes that these surveys are private and that the log-in file is only a way to keep students from doing the same survey twice.



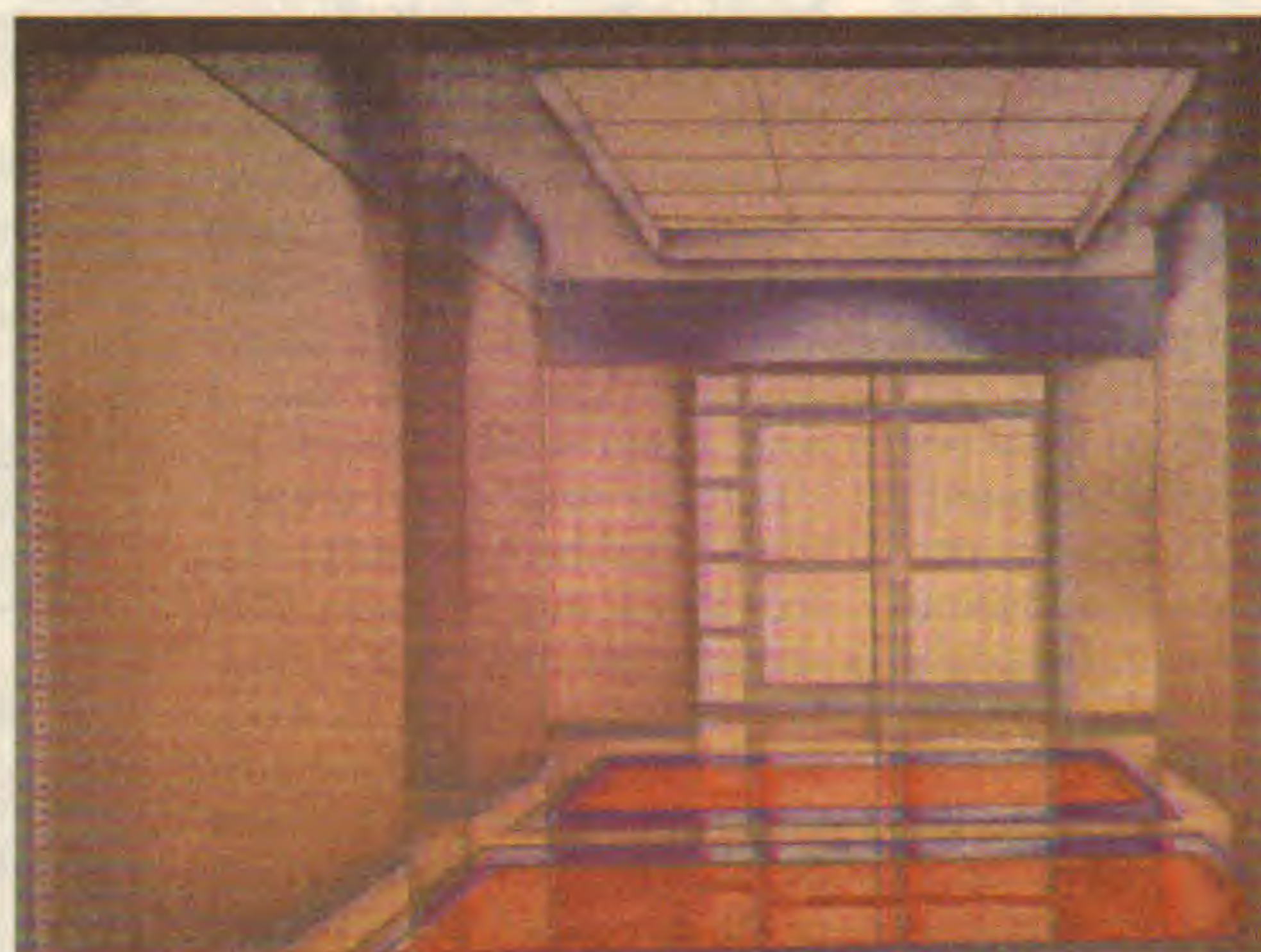
Dustin Milstead, Donna Banks and Sarah Lancaster prepare to key in their student surveys

Channing Howington, of the Dean of Academics office, also feels that students should take these surveys. They are important and easy to do. You can do them from any computer. You log on to the Shelton State Website, click on online resources, and then click on Student Survey. It's that simple.

I hear a lot of students say that they don't feel like taking the survey, or they don't feel it works, but it is an important part of the student experience here at Shelton. So, if you find yourself with a little time and in front of a computer, give it a try. You'll be helping yourself and your fellow students improve the programs here and improve the way we all learn.

November 27 is your deadline to submit art of all sorts
for the *Courier's* annual fine arts issue...

Maxwell's Crossing



Also, it's not too late to be a part of the editorial staff of the *Courier*. Call 391-2406 or stop by Room 2319 for details.

Shel-Shots



The Buccaneers left Georgia Perimeter behind in their 5-1 victory on Oct. 22.



President Rick Rogers led the way in crowd participation by being one of the first to submit to a facial during the Fashion Fair in the Atrium.



Among the participants at this year's Bar-B-Que Bash was Madison Taylor (L). She was part of a crowd of hundreds admiring the bingo-calling skills of Tommy Hester (R). The Shelton State Ambassadors assisted Hester in delivering the scores of door prizes won by many of the participants.



Candace Hamner (L) takes the Birmingham Pledge from Shelton Ambassadors Jonathan Hayes and Haeden Burleson during a signing event in the atrium. The pledge has become a national civil rights movement.



The Fashion Fair gets underway in the atrium on Oct. 18. Many students attended the event wherein experts were on hand to give advice about cosmetics and other beauty topics.

COLLEGE OF SOFT KNOCKS

*Humor by
Henri Cheramie*



Humor columnist Henri Cheramie as Todd the Destroyer, a nerdish D&D player. Bedecked in Dollar Tree accessories, so far this has been the writer's favorite Halloween character.

Many of you may have seen me running around Shelton in costumes this past month and wondered, "Did they let the crazies out of the pen?"

Well, Not all of them...just me.

Halloween is a very spe-

cial time of year for me. As a child it was always my favorite holiday and as an adult, I have enjoyed dressing in costumes and passing out candy. This holiday, though, many would disagree with me, is all about having fun. Back in New Orleans, Halloween isn't a one-day holiday. It's a full month-long celebration. In Alabama though, that's a different story.

I've been trying to bring a little of that All Hollow's Eve cheer into the lives of Sheltonians this month, and lemme tell you...it's been...interesting.

Most people don't know what to do when someone dressed as a punk rock fish

approaches them. Same goes when the world's worst Lounge Singer sings you a song about your book bag. And most people certainly can't handle it when a Level 9 Mage Warrior says he's here to protect you from your evil homework. These characters were often greeted with a laugh, but some people actually got hostile. Some people reacted to me with anger. I was called a nerd several times, and I'll be the first to admit it, I am king of the nerds, so that was a compliment.

Many people laughed at



We found Nemo! We found Nemo! He's disguised as Henri and hanging around the Courier office.

me as if they thought I was being serious. I was just having a little fun! You have to have fun in life! Your fun may be listening to music or watching the O.C. or getting wasted on the weekends. Mine is dressing in costume and harassing people. I don't see what the big deal is.

Grown Up Nemo was what would have happened if Nemo grew up with abandonment issues. I found the costume in a Salvation Army Store and it seemed like a good idea at the time. Vic Trichinosis is the world's worst lounge singer. He can't even afford a back up group or proper equipment. That doesn't stop him from singing.

I knew a guy back in New Orleans who was almost just like this, worked in a really sleazy strip bar, and used a *karaoke* machine as his back-up band.

Todd is a level 9 Mage Warrior (He knows how to fight and cast spells) and is based on many of my friends who are into D&D (Dungeons and Dragons for all you uneducated out there), Anime, Harry Potter (Dumbledore is dead, get over it) and such. Todd was my most insulting, yet most compelling character. He has been, by far, my favorite. I

equipped him with costume accessories from the Dollar Tree. I love that place.

I have never missed a Halloween. In 10th grade, I had the flu and still managed to go out that night, with a 103 fever, in a costume and makeup. The Halloween after Hurricane Katrina, I dressed up in a white shirt and said I was a FEMA Trailer. One year, I put on a moustache and glasses and went as "Middle Aged Henri". I have never missed the opportunity to dress in a costume and will probably keep on doing this until I am dead or a really old man—and I mean *real*.

I was shocked a little by some of the reactions. I was laughed at many times. That's the reaction I wanted. Then someone called me a Nerd. Well, I am king of the Nerds, so I didn't take offense to that. But then, people said some really mean things. Someone told me he was going to stick my flute up my backside. I was taken aback by this. Someone called me "gay," so I walked up to him and sang a song about how cute he was.

So, in the end, what are you left with? A Dollar Tree costume? Sure. A perpetual man-child running around these sacred halls? Absolutely. Fun? You bet. That's what it's all about. "You have to swing, baby," as Vic would say, or "Fight the Dragon of Boredom with the Flaming Sword of Happiness!" as Todd would say. And remember, above all, "Trick or Treat!"

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Athletic department golf tournament growing into premier fall event

Each year the annual Shelton State Athletic department Golf Tournament becomes more popular--and more enthusiastically anticipated.

As athletics' chief fundraising event, the tournament draws a very Shelton-supporting crowd, including a large number of faculty and staff teams.

This year teams participated from throughout Alabama, including Dothan, Montgomery and Red Bay, as well as Columbus, Ga..

The camaraderie begins at 11:30 a.m. when lunch is served and the rounds of excuses in anticipation of not playing better are made.

Another highlight occurs when some of the athletes show up to staff the 18 holes, recording the scores for each of the groups that come through.

About 25 team participated in this year's event, and every hole had at least one corporate sponsor.

The winning gross team came over from Greenville and consisted of Ronnie and Brett Paulk, Lomax Bowen and Steve McGee.



Before going on to record the scores on the holes at Tannehill National course, the Buccaneer athletes enjoyed a hearty meal.



About 100 golfers enjoyed the brisk fall weather and the friendly competition of the Shelton golf tournament on Oct. 13



With moans and groans the scores came in after the round of golf. Almost everyone playing received at least a door prize for their efforts.



The winning net team this year was comprised of some names familiar to Shelton folks everywhere; they are (L-R) Christina Lee, Preston Lee, Humphrey Lee and Blake Harper. They are congratulated by Athletic Director Barry Mohun (Back). H. Lee was the long-time student dean at Shelton who now serves as president of Northwest-Shoals Community College.

Communication instructor working on NEH project about Henry Ford and auto industry

By Matt Celozzi

Courier publisher and communication instructor Dr. Jim Kenny participated in a National Endowment for the Humanities workshop in the summer and is currently at work on a writing project on its subject: American icon Henry Ford and the automobile industry.

Kenny spent a week in Dearborn, Mich., with a national selection of community college education personnel listening to Ford scholars and touring the historic sites of Ford's rise to dominance in industry dur-

ing the first third of the century. "It was a wonderful opportunity," Kenny said. "I spent a week in my hometown learning more about someone I had heard about all my life. My father worked for Ford's when I was growing up and I've always been fascinated by the story of his rise to power."

As part of the NEH seminar, Kenny and 24 others were given access to some people and records the general public rarely encounters. "Our tour of the Rouge plant--once the largest factory in the world--is the same

as anyone could take. But we spent one whole morning discussing and debating the future of the car industry with a Ford executive and a high-ranking UAW officer, and that is something you would normally not get to do!"

Kenny is expected to produce a significant piece of writing as part of the workshop grant. He says he is enjoying the process of learning more about the industry and following its changes and challenges closely. "My topic is a follow-up on what I learned about Ford and the South



and how the Southern worker mirrors those at the turn of the twentieth century. Back then the workers were very proud and independent. They didn't trust unions at first and Ford hated them. One of the reasons the auto industry is doing so well down here now is that both the Southern worker and the auto executives share that century-old dislike."

Communication instructor Dr. Jim Kenny took the picture of a statue of Henry Ford in front of the famous Rouge Plant in Dearborn, Mich.

Four Shelton nominees vie for Chancellor's Award



Shelton State's four Chancellor Award nominees are (L-R) Johnny Parker, Sonny Logan, Lori Swindle and Lee Albritton.

Four veteran Shelton employees have been nominated by the college for the annual Chancellor's Award for the Alabama College system. The four exemplary employees are Johnny Parker of the human resources department in the professional division, Sonny Logan in the technical education division, Lori Swindle in the secretarial division and Dr. Lee Albritton in the academic division.

Parker has been making smooth the hiring process for the college since 1999. A former major in the U.S. Army, Parker combines a disciplined approach to

organization with a kindly attitude toward applicants.

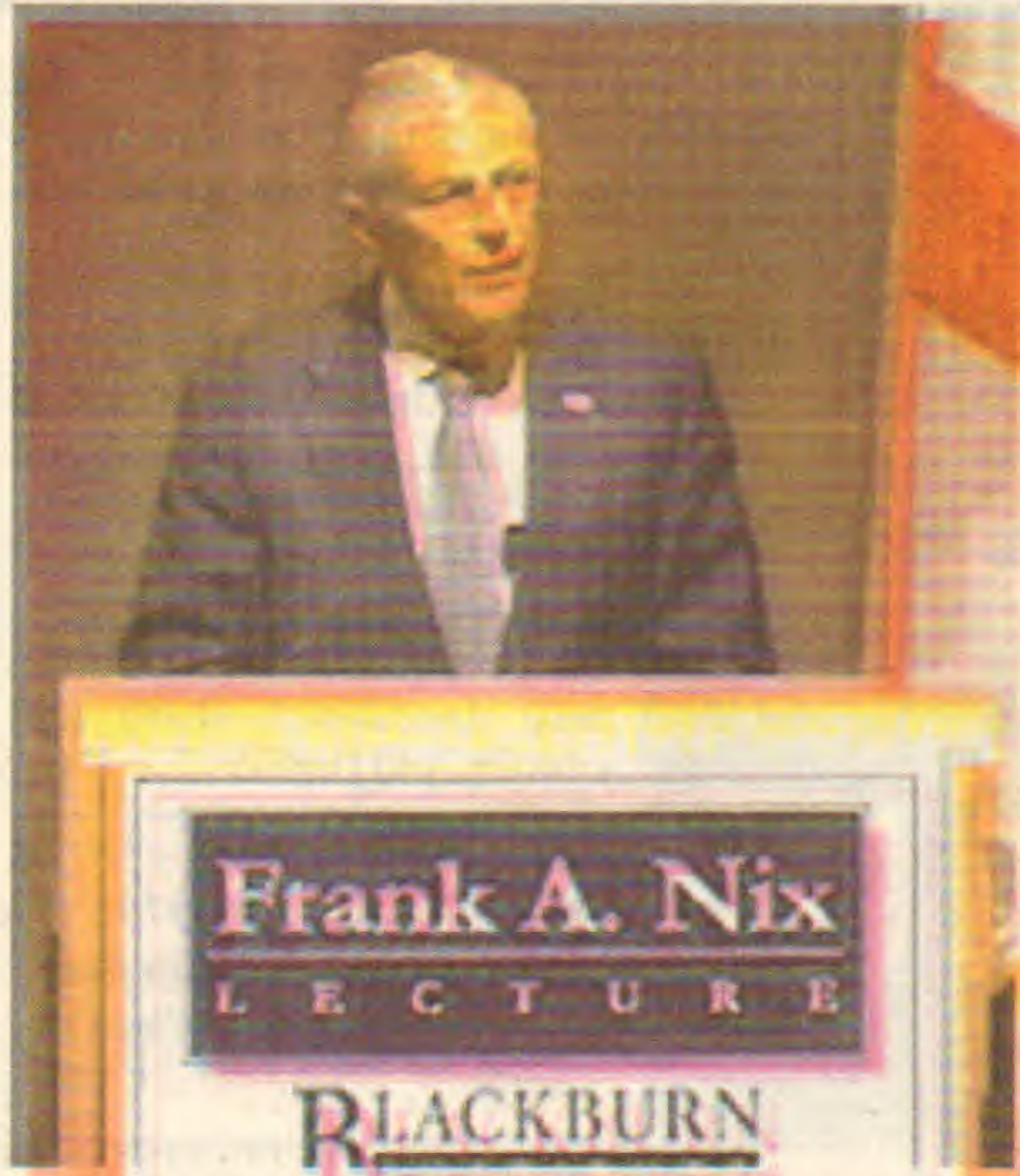
Logan works with students in the much-sought-after field of heating and air conditioning. His years of work in this field can be felt whenever one enters a building that has been ventilated by one of his many graduates.

Swindle started working for Shelton more than 20 years ago as an indefatigable worker in the Shelton library. She helped to organize the college's first collection on 15th Street; now she keeps fastidiously organized the tons of material in Shelton State's human resource department.

Albritton is one of the original cast members of the college. With a Ph.D. from prestigious Rice University, he helped set a tone of rigorous academics at the college when the academic division first opened its doors in the early '80s. He also teaches a popular astronomy class on the Fredd campus, gleefully incorporating his pride-and-joy observatory. *Courier* editor Matt Celozzi is a student in Albritton's astronomy class. "Dr. Albritton is one of the finest instructors I have ever learned from. He brings with him such a zeal for the material and it definitely shows in class."

Gen. Wesley Clark delivers second Frank Nix Lecture for Blackburn Institute

Following on the heels of Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice last year, Gen. Wesley Clark delivered the second annual Frank A. Nix Lecture for UA's Blackburn Institute. The group is named for Dr. John L. Blackburn, a long-time educator and friend and fund-raiser for Shelton State.



Q... E?